

ST. ANDREWS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

3601 CENTRAL AVENUE

CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA

HISTORICAL SKETCH

1945 - 1964

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PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH

IN THE

DIOCESE OF NORTH CAROLINA

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Francis Osborne Clarkson

August, 1964







(Architect's Model of New Church)

**Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church**

**3601 Central Avenue**

**Charlotte, North Carolina**



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# ST. ANDREWS PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH

## HISTORY From 1945 To 1964

At the request of the Rev. O'Kelly Whitaker, former rector of St. Andrew's Protestant Episcopal Church, I was asked to prepare a list of Memorials in the Church. Before listing these Memorials it is appropriate to give briefly a few facts and dates concerning the history of St. Andrew's Church.

The first Chapel was erected on four lots in Wesley Heights given by the late Heriot Clarkson, Senior Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of North Carolina, in 1895. These lots are at the intersection of Gold Avenue, now Flint Street, and West Trade Street (old Plank Road), and on these lots the donor erected the brick chapel where Sunday School and Church services were held until 1928.

In 1928 this property was sold and the proceeds, \$4,500, augmented by gifts from the American Church Building Fund, the Holt Fund, Justice Clarkson, Francis O. Clarkson, and others, and these funds were used to build the new building on Grandin Road. Mr. E. C. Griffith gave the two lots on Grandin Road on which the new Church was erected. Later a Rectory was erected on the property.





In 1951 the Grandin Road property was sold and the proceeds from the sale augmented by generous gifts from members and friends, and this made possible the purchase of 4.15 acres at 3601 Central Avenue. The ground was broken on Passion Sunday, March 22, 1953 at 5 P. M. The service was conducted by Bishops Penick and Baker, assisted by the Rector, Mr. Whitaker.

On the Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity, September 13, 1953, at 7:30 P. M. the Parish House was opened in a service conducted by the Bishops and the Rector. Since then two additions have been made to the Parish House. The funds were generously contributed by members and friends, and much of the actual construction done by a faithful member, Mr. T. E. Grider, assisted by other members of the Parish.

Over the years many Memorials have been given, - including the following:

The first Bible was given by Mrs. P. H. Williams and Mrs. Price.

A beautiful handmade and carved altar and cross were made by the late Rev. Robert Bruce Owens, also a pair of carved oak candlesticks made by him were given by Miss Gail Harwood as a Memorial to the late Edwin A Osborne who conducted many services in the original Chapel.





These are now being used in the Chapel in the Parish Hall where services are held pending the erection of the Church building which is now in progress and should be completed this fall. These are inscribed:

"In Loving Memory of  
Reverend Edwin Augustus Osborne,  
Priest,  
1837 - 1926."

A baptismal font, presented by Miss Pauline Williams, bears the following inscription:

"In Loving Memory of  
Patrick Henry Williams, January 26, 1861 - August 11, 1947  
Lillian Martha Williams, September 12, 1860 - January 21, 1938"

A Credence Table given by Mrs. S. H. Orr, inscribed:

"In Loving Memory of  
Susan Cosby Rowlett,  
May 20, 1843 - October 3, 1933"

Alms Basins presented by Francis O. Clarkson, inscribed:

"To the Glory of God and in Memory of  
Heriot Clarkson, Builder of the original  
St. Andrew's Church Building,  
August 21, 1863 - January 27, -1942"

Processional Cross:

"In Loving Memory of  
Tommy Drew Dellinger,  
May 20, 1931 - September 4, 1945"



The plaque at the present Parish House entrance is the original plaque recorded in the 1945 History of St. Andrew's.

Another plaque is in the Parish House, placed there in relation to rooms added.

A Prayer Desk:

"In Loving Memory of  
Margaret Rowlett Hales,  
September 19, 1867 - July 9, 1898"

A Lectern, uninscribed.

A Lectern Bible:

"Presented to St. Andrew's Episcopal Church  
For the Glory of God by the  
Susie H. Orr Chapter of the Woman's Auxiliary"

An Altar Book, or Missal:

"In Memoriam Walter Barnes Nobel,  
November 4, 1942"

A Ciborium, or Bread Box:

"In Grateful Appreciation  
Reverend W. H. Wheeler, 1940 - 1949"

A Chalice, presented by Judge and Mrs. Francis O. Clarkson in memory of Mrs. Clarkson's father:

"To the Glory of God and in Loving Memory  
of John Askew Burgess  
September 30, 1874 - July 13, 1950"





A Paten, given by Mr. and Mrs. Crawford G. Lassiter in Memory of Lula Rumfelt Prim, mother of Mrs. Lassiter.

A Pulpit, built by Mr. H. A. McGinnis.

Pressley Hall, named in honor of Clinton C. Pressley.

Library, originally started and named in honor of David Leavitt Howe, Jr., April 2, 1949 - December 8, 1956.

Flags, given by Mr. Furman Ferguson.

There are many other articles in the Church which have been donated through the generous gifts of members and friends, including the organ, the hymnals, and prayer books, and a private communion set.

### Whitaker Park

When St. Andrew's built their first unit on Central Avenue, there was no public playground in this section of town. Mr. Whitaker, sensing the need for a park met with the Parent-Teachers Association of Merry Oaks School and offered the use of the back part of the Church property for a park. A Park Committee was elected, consisting of Messrs: J. D. Anderson, President; Lefty House, Vice President; Clinton Pressley, Liason Officer between the P. T. A. and the Church. Honoring Mr. Whitaker for his generous offer, the Park Committee named the park





"The Whitaker Park." The Merry Oaks Parent-Teacher Association employed a full-time instructor who was a member of the Merry Oaks faculty, for the summer months. They installed the equipment we now have, including water fountains. The instructor not only supervised the play but she gave instructions in arts and crafts.

Additional Church School Rooms.

A very generous donor gave \$1,750 to St. Andrew's if the congregation at St. Andrew's would match this amount. The money was raised, and, thanks to Mr. Tillman Crider, the building was erected. In the hall of this new addition is a plaque bearing this inscription:

"Placed to Honor The Christian Stewardship  
Manifested by Tillman E. Crider in the  
Completion of These Rooms.  
January 18, 1957"

Pressley Hall.

Mr. Clint Pressley, a devoted member of the Church, when asked about Pressley Hall, said, "Concerning Pressley Hall, I know of no reason for this name being selected other than that I fussed so much that the Vestry voted to build Pressley Hall to hush me up. The Hall was built by the men of St. Andrew's Parish, and has been a great blessing to St. Andrew's."



Since 1952 the Church has been ably served by the following Rectors:

The Rev. O'Kelley Whitaker, June 24, 1952 (approximate date)  
to February 11, 1958.

The Rev. Frederick C. Harrison, Jr.,  
October 1, 1958 - October 15, 1960

The Rev. Richard W. Turkelson,  
December 6, 1960 - October 15, 1963

The Rev. W. David Woodruff,  
November 14, 1963 -

After long years of waiting and working, the new Church building is now underway at 3601 Central Avenue. Ground was broken for the new Church on the First Sunday in Lent, February 16, 1964. The congregation looks forward to its occupancy in the fall of 1964.

It is gratifying to have the following report from the present able and devoted Rector, the Rev. W. David Woodruff:

<u>Financial Facts for Present Building Program</u>		<u>March 3, 1964</u>
Church Building - Contract Price		\$112,220.00
Rectory and Land - Contract Price		<u>20,993.25</u>
		\$133,213.25
Less:		
Cash on hand - Building Fund	\$24,213.25	
Budgeted 1964 transfer from		
operating fund to building fund	<u>6,000.00</u>	<u>30,213.25</u>
Remainder to be balanced by 2 loans		\$103,000.00





(Financial Facts for Present Building Program - Mar. 3, 1964 - cont'd)

Church loan, 20 years at 5-1/2%	\$86,000.00	
(Monthly payments of \$592)		
Rectory loan, 25 years at 5-3/4%	17,000.00	
(Monthly payments of \$107)	<u>          </u>	<u>\$103,000.00</u>

Monthly payments totaling \$699 in reduction of this indebtedness will begin January, 1965.

1964 Budget for Operations

Current In-Parish Expenses	\$14,246.00	
To Work, Outside Parish	7,566.00	
To Disbursements on Debt	8,696.00	
(\$718/month)	<u>          </u>	\$ 30,508.00
Total Pledges, 1964		<u>\$ 30,508.00</u>

Special gifts, memorials, and new pledges may be applied to further building needs beyond the present contract. Some furnishings and parking facilities are now outside the contract.

"In our 1963 Parochial Report we have listed 134 families, 29 persons not included in families, 330 confirmed persons, and 517 baptized persons in the congregation.

As you know, we are just completing a new rectory at 4026 Larkspur Lane. The contract price is \$20,993.25. We hope to have the Church completed by September 1, although this depends on a lot of things.

Perhaps I should also mention that in the last Parochial Report we listed 227 in our Church School. That includes 22 officers and teachers and 205 children and adult students."







